

Message Text

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64

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 SAB-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 OPR-02

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O R 272210Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6513

AMEMBASSY PANAMA IMMEDIATE

INFO USMISSION USUN

USCINCSO

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, PN

SUBJ: PANAMANIAN DELEGATES BLAST U.S. ON CANAL ZONE

REF: MSG DTG 270511Z AUG 75 FROM CDR 470TH MI GP FT AMADOR CZ

SUMMARY: ON AUGUST 26, PANAMANIAN MINISTER JUAN TACK CELEBRATED PANAMA'S ADMISSION TO THE NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE IN LIMA BY ATTACKING THE U.S. FOR CARRYING OUT MILITARY MANEUVERS IN THE CANAL ZONE DURING THE NAC. MEANWHILE, PANAMANIAN DELEGATE CARLOS PEREZ HERRERA SAID PANAMA WOULD RECOVER THE CANAL AND THE ZONE BY "ILLEGAL MEANS" IF NECESSARY AND DENOUNCED THE EXISTENCE OF "COLONIAL ENCLAVES" IN THE ZONE, PUERTO RICO, AND OTHER PARTS OF LATIN AMERICA. PANAMANIAN DEL ISSUED PRESS RELEASE HERE AUGUST 27 DENOUNCING MANEUVERS AS "SUSCEPTIBLE OF ENDANGERING WORLD PEACE", AND DELEGATION INDICATED SEPARATELY THAT PANAMA WOULD ASK NAC SUPPORT FOR "WHATEVER MIGHT COME". TEXT OF PRESS RELEASE BELOW. WASHINGTON POST CORRESPONDENT HAS ASKED FOR COMMENT. WE ARE REFERRING POST, AND WILL REFER OTHERS, TO DEPARTMENT WITH NO COMMENT HERE. END SUMMARY.

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1. IN COMMENTS TO REPORTERS FOLLOWING THE AUGUST 26 NAC
PLENARY SESSION, TACK SAID PANAMA'S ADMISSION TO THE NON-
ALIGNED GROUP "HAS PRODUCED A CURIOUS REACTION ON THE PART OF
THE U.S. WHICH AS OF YESTERDAY (AUG 25), IN AN ILLEGAL AND
ARBITRARY MANNER, COMMENCED MILITARY MANEUVERS (IN THE ZONE)."
TACK IDENTIFIED THE MANEUVER ELEMENT AS THE "82ND DIVISION."
HE SAID THAT THE ACTION "FOR US CONSTITUTES AN OPEN MAN-
IFESTATION (AGAINST) PANAMA'S SOVEREIGNTY", AND INDICATED
THAT HE WOULD RAISE THE ISSUE AT THE CONFERENCE.

2. IN A SEPARATE PRESS CONFERENCE, PEREZ COMMENTED THAT
PANAMA WOULD SOON "PUT AN END TO (THE CANAL) ENCLAVE."
HE SAID, "OUR COUNTRY CRAVES THAT HISTORICAL OBJECTIVE BE-
CAUSE WE ARE NOT A COLONY OF ANYONE, AND, FOR THAT REASON, WE
ARE A STATE IN INSURRECTION." HE ALSO SAID, "PANAMA IS
RESOLVED THAT THIS GENERATION OF PANAMANIAN WILL FULLY
RECOVER JURISDICTION AND SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE CANAL AND
THE ZONE, BE IT THROUGH NEGOTIATION OR OTHER MEANS." ASKED
WHAT THESE "OTHER MEANS" MIGHT BE, PEREZ REPLIED THAT WHEN
PEACEFUL AND LEGAL MEANS ARE EXHAUSTED, "THERE ALWAYS
REMAINS ILLEGAL MEANS, WHICH ARE NO LESS EFFECTIVE FOR
BEING ILLEGAL."

3. PEREZ ALSO SAID THAT PANAMA WILL SUPPORT ALL LIBERATION
MOVEMENTS AMONG NON-ALIGNED NATIONS. IN THIS REGARD, HE
CHARACTERIZED AS "REDOUBTS OF COLONIAL ENCLAVES" THE
CANAL ZONE, PUERTO RICO, THE FAUKLAND ISLANDS (MALVINAS),
BELIZE, AND "ENCLAVES THAT STILL BELONG TO EUROPEAN POWERS"

4. BEGIN TEXT OF PANAMANIAN DEL PRESS RELEASE. QTE
DESDE EL DIECIOCHO DE AGOSTO PANAMA ESTA SUFRIENDO LA
PRESENCIA IRRITABLE, RETADORA Y AMENAZADORA DEL SEGUNDO BATALLON
DEL REGIMIENTO 505 DE INFANTERIA DE LA DIVISION OCHENTA Y DOS
(82) DEL EJERCITO DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS DE NORTEAMERICA,
PROCEDENTE DE FORT BRAGGS (SIC), CAROLINA DEL NORTE, EL CUAL
SE ENCUENTRA REALIZANDO MANIOBRAS DE ENTRENAMIENTO EN LA SELVA,
EN LA PARTE DEL TERRITORIO PANAMENO DENOMINADO "ZONA DEL CANAL
DE PANAMA". LA MENCIONADO DIVISION 82 ESTA CONSTITUIDA
PARA PLANIFICAR, ATACAR, CONQUISTAR, MANTENER Y REEMPLAZAR A
OTRAS UNIDADES QUE CONSIDEREN EN DESVENTAJA; ASI COMO PARA
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CUMPLIR TODAS LAS OTRAS INSTRUCCIONES IMPARTIDAS POR EL
EJERCITO DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS A TODAS SUS DIVISIONES, IN-
CLUIDAS LAS QUE OPERAN DENTRO DE LA NATO Y LA SEATO, ENTRE
LAS CUALES PUEDEN MENCIONARSE, ENTRE OTRAS, LA DE "PRESTAR
ASISTENCIA (UNDERLINED) A UN GOBIERNO VACILANTE".
ES IMPORTANTE SENALAR QUE EL LUGAR DE ORIGEN DE ESA TROPA
ES LA MISMA AREA DE ENTRENAMIENTO DONDE SE PREPARARON LAS
FUERZAS QUE FUERON VERGONZOZAMENTE DERROTADAS EN VIET NAM

Y CAMBOYA.

EL HECHO QUE DENUNCIAMOS ES UN ACTO DE PROVOCACION SUSCEPTIBLE
DE PONER EN PELIGRO LA PAZ MUNDIAL, LO QUE NOS MUEVE A
DAR CONOCIMIENTO DEL MISMO A LOS PAISES NO ALINEADOS PARA
LAS ACCIONES POSTERIORES QUE PANAMA PUDIERE INICIAR CON EL
FIN DE OPONERSE A ESTOS ACTOS DE INJUSTIFICADA PROVOCACION.
END QTE.
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